

# Education PreK-12

Issues Facing Florida

*December 8, 2010*

# *Topics*

- Background
- Teacher Quality
- Race to the Top
- Charter Schools
- Virtual Education

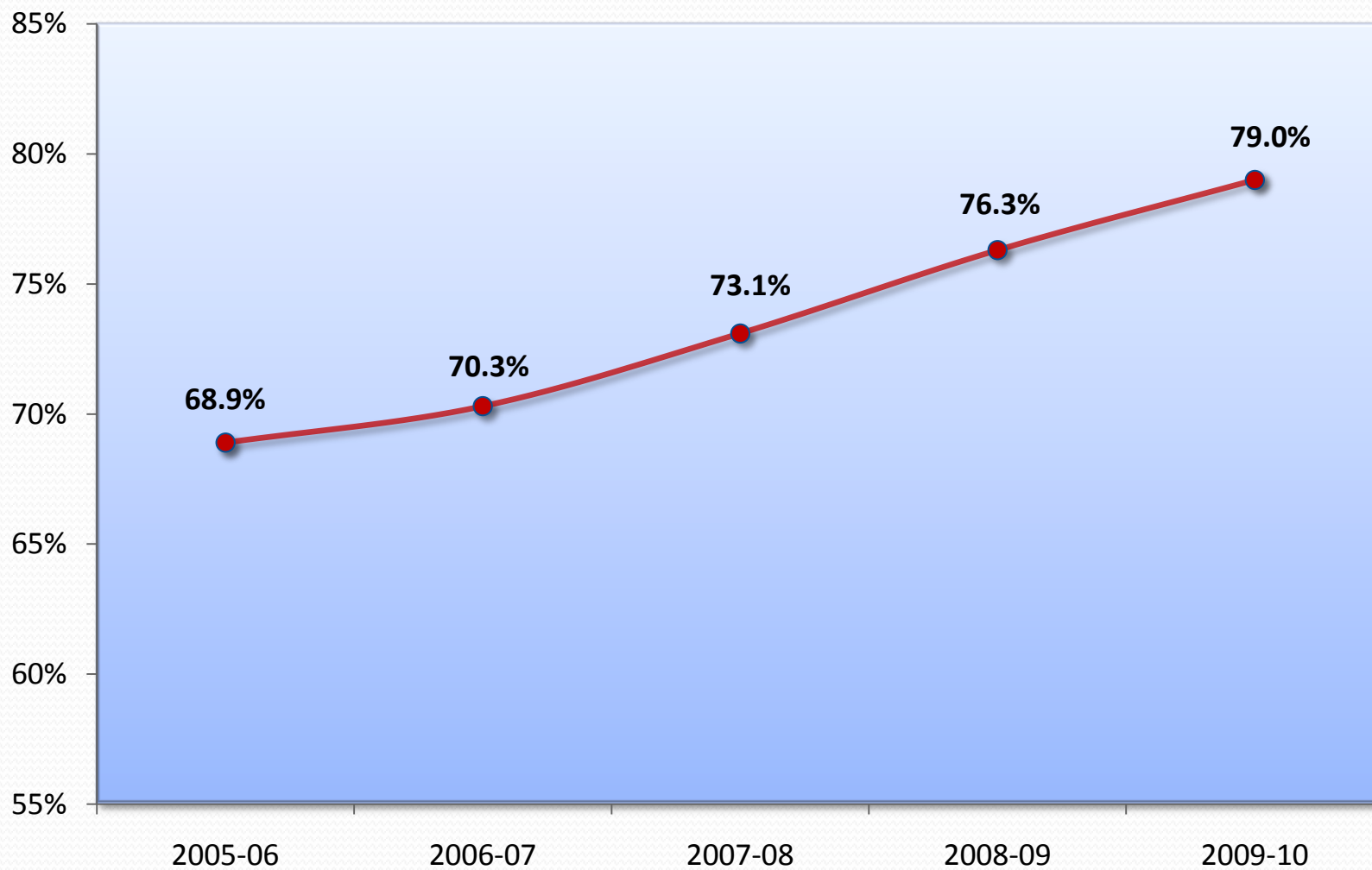
# 15 Years Ago:

- No charter schools
- No virtual schools
- No McKay or Florida Tax Credit Scholarships
- No meaningful school accountability
- Low graduation requirements
- Low high school graduation rate
- Well below average performance in NAEP reading and math in 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade

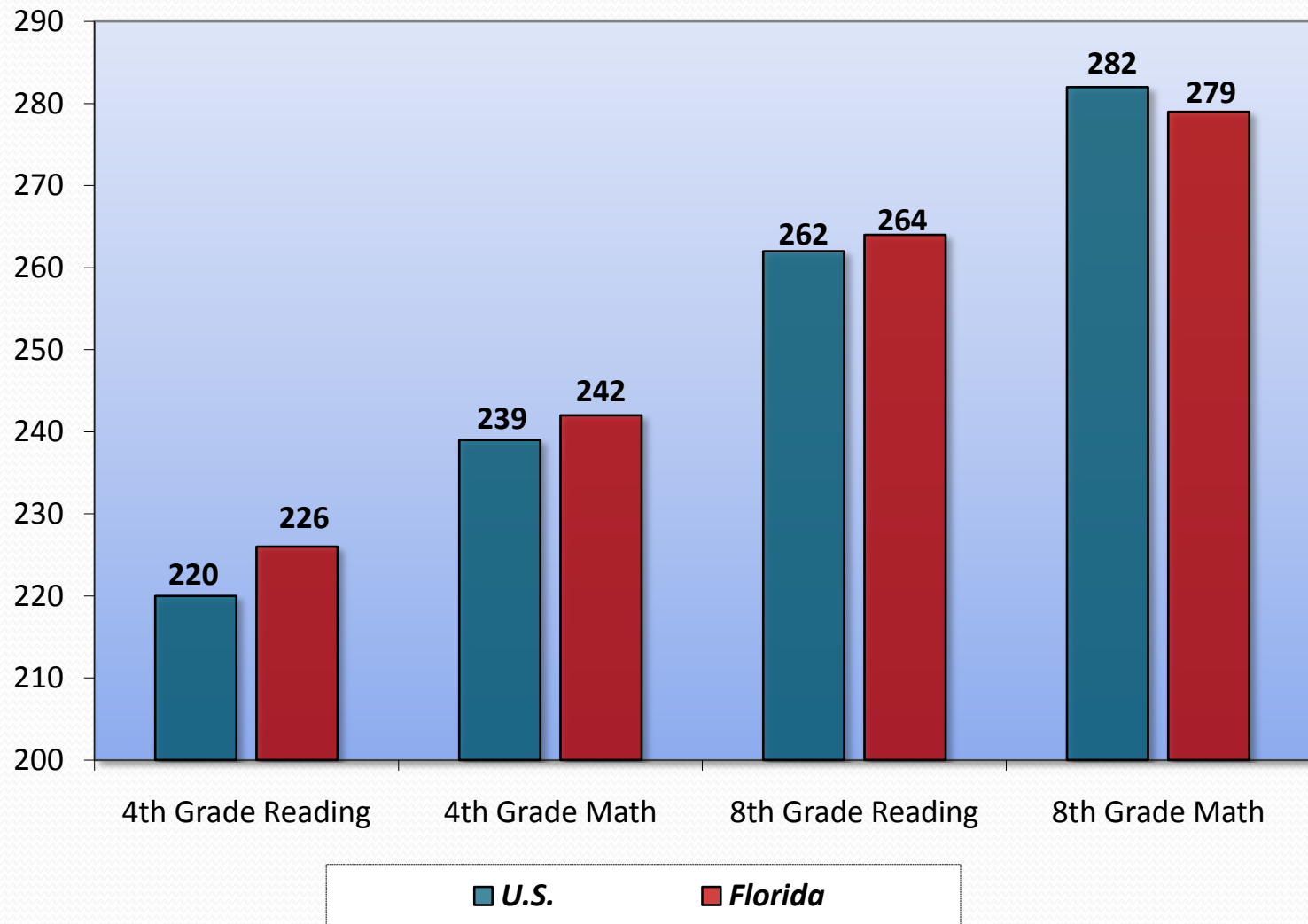
# Today:

- 400+ charter schools with over 137,000 students
- 100,000+ students participating in virtual education
- 21,000+ students receiving McKay scholarships and 32,000+ receiving Florida Tax Credit Scholarships
- Schools and students held to rigorous performance expectations
- 79% high school graduation rate
- Above average performance in NAEP reading & math
- Only 1 of 3 states to narrow the white/black gap

## Florida's Four Year Graduation Rate



## Florida 4th & 8th Graders - 2009 NAEP Reading & Math



# 15 Years of Reform

**1995**

- Public schools are graded for the first time based on student achievement.

**1996**

- Charter schools created as independent public schools. FCAT developed to measure student achievement.

**1997**

- Florida Virtual School created for grades 6-12.

**1998**

- Constitution revision restructures Board of Education as an appointed board. FCAT administered for the first time in grades 4, 5, 8, and 10.

**1999**

- A+ plan adopted, establishing A-F school letter grades, eliminating social promotion, expanding FCAT to grades 3-10, and creating the School Recognition program.

**2001**

- Corporate Income Tax Credit Scholarships created for low-income students. Community colleges authorized to offer baccalaureate degrees.

**2002**

- Class size, VPK, and BOG constitutional amendments adopted.

**2006**

- A++ plan adopted, creating a middle school core curriculum.

**2008**

- High school grades expanded to include additional achievement measures.

**2010**

- High school graduation requirements expanded to include Biology I, Algebra II, and Chemistry or Physics.

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# Teacher Quality covers:

- Hiring
- Evaluation
- Certification
- Compensation
- Retention



# What reforms has the Legislature recently enacted?

- Hiring
- Evaluation
- Compensation

# What about Senate Bill 6?

- Hiring
- Evaluation
- Certification
- Compensation

# What are the upcoming issues and opportunities?

- Tenure
- Teacher and administrator evaluations
- Performance pay
- Student assessments

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# What is Race to the Top?

- A \$700 million, four year federal grant:
  - ❖ Adopt college and career-ready standards and assessments
  - ❖ Improve PreK-20 data systems
  - ❖ Reform teacher and principal employment policies
  - ❖ Turn around low-performing schools

# What has been done so far?

- 62 school districts and 3 university lab schools are participating in Race to the Top
- The DOE has initiated two ITNs for consultants to assist with:
  - ❖ State development of measures of student growth.
  - ❖ District development of teacher and principal performance assessment systems.



# What are the upcoming issues and opportunities?

- Development of student growth measures
- Development of local assessments
- Continuity of grant-driven reforms



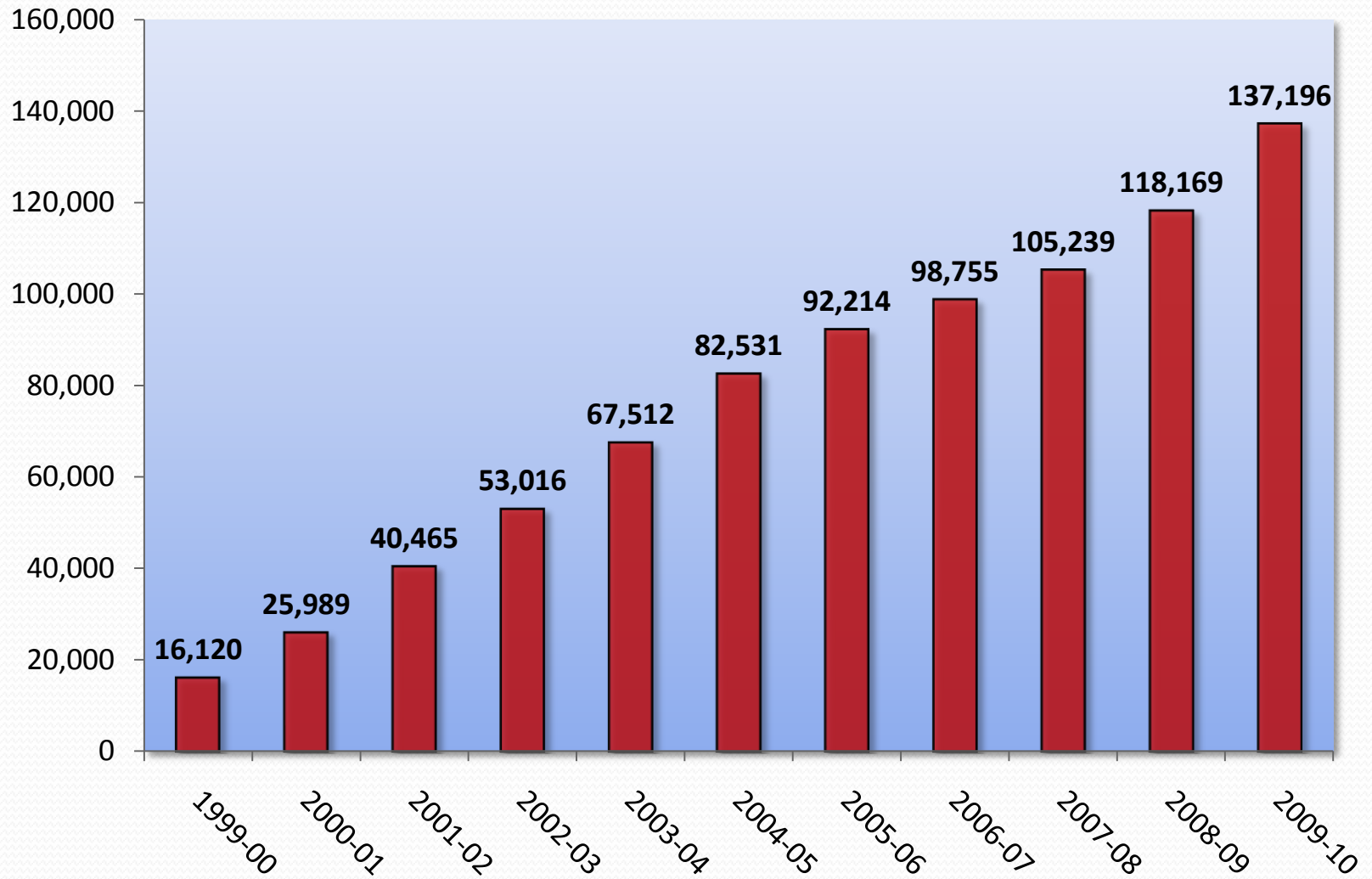
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# What are charter schools?

- Performance contract
- Sponsoring entity
- Accountability and Assessment
- Funding
- Appeal process

## Charter School Enrollment





# What reforms has the Legislature recently enacted?

- Growth caps
- Sponsoring entities
- Accountability



# What are the upcoming issues and opportunities?

- Sponsors
- Appeal process
- Continued growth

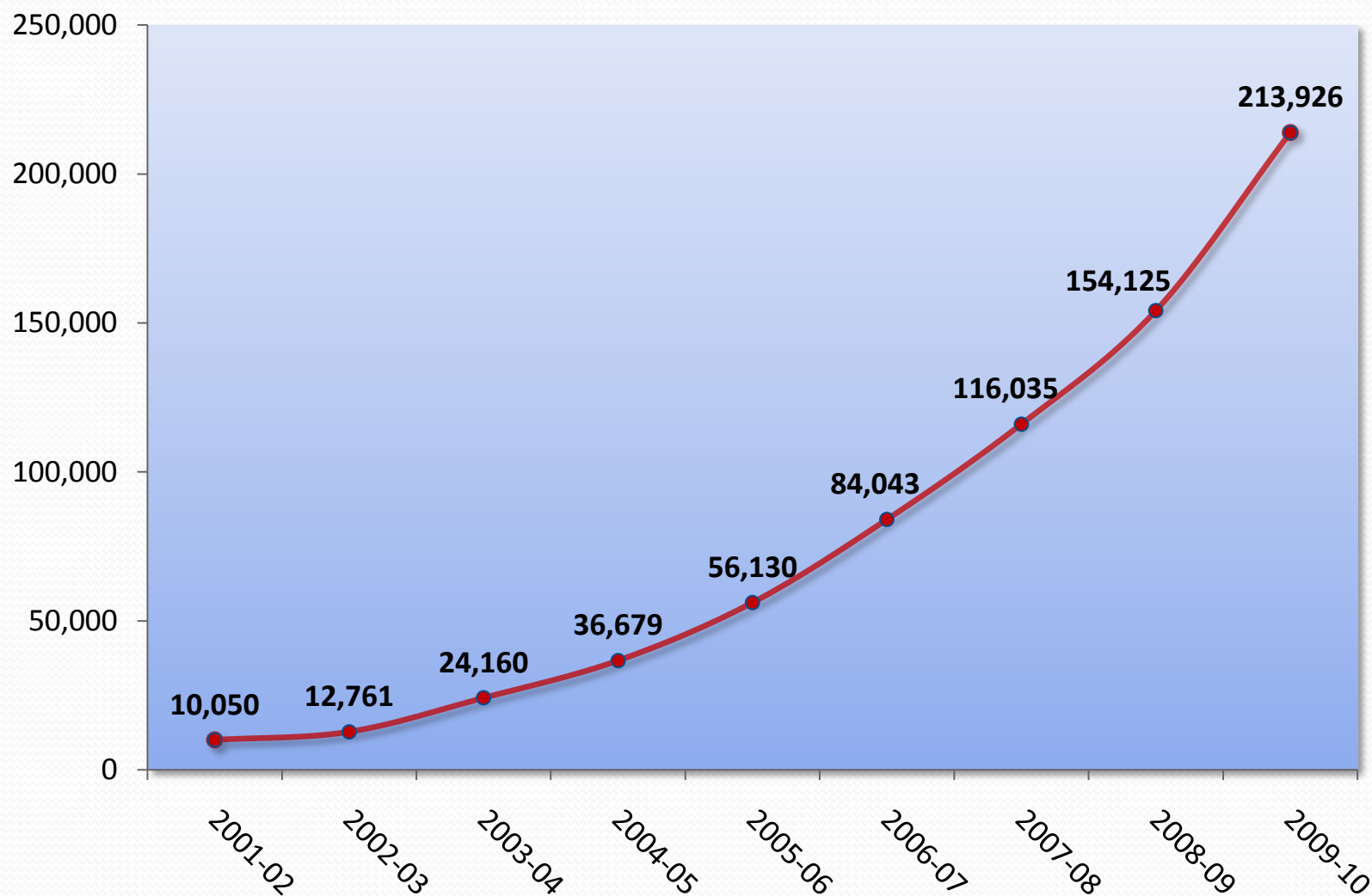
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# What is virtual education?

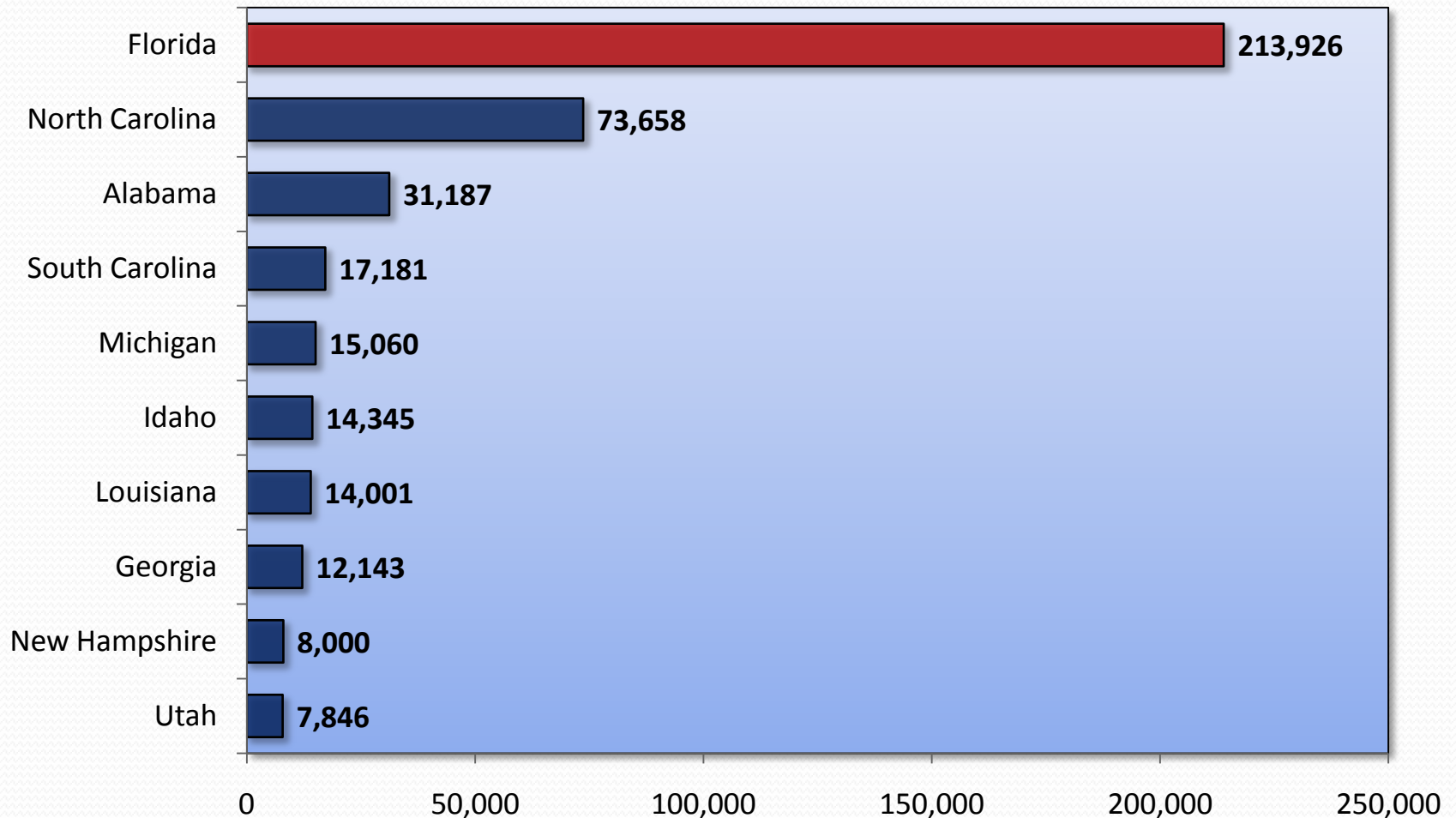
- Supplemental, part-time, and full-time
- Provided through the Florida Virtual School and school district virtual instruction programs
- Prior-year public school attendance
- Accountability
- Performance funding

## Florida Virtual School Course Enrollments





## The 10 Highest State Virtual School Course Enrollments





# What reforms has the Legislature recently enacted?

- Statewide K-8 virtual school pilots
- District full-time virtual instruction programs



# What are the upcoming issues and opportunities?

- Continued Growth
- Transparency
- Accountability